

REMARKS

The election/restriction requirement dated March 30, 2010 holds that this application has two patentably distinct inventions. More specifically, Applicant is required to elect one of the following patentably distinct groups/species for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C.

§121:

Group I – claims 1-5 and 7-13, drawn to a method; and

Group II – claims 6 and 14, drawn to a rotary member.

In response, Applicant hereby elects Group I without traverse.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests examination of claims 1-5 and 7-13. Thus, claims 6 and 14 can be withdrawn from consideration in this case. However, Applicant respectfully requests that these non-elected claims be considered upon the allowance of a generic claim in accordance with U.S. patent practice.

In item 3 of the Office Action, it was requested that Applicant provide reference numerals to all of the claimed limitations as well as support in the disclosure for better clarity. In response, Applicant has provided reference numerals to all of the claimed limitations below.

1. A method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1), the rotary member (10) including a turbine shell (11) of the torque converter (1), a plurality of blades (13) fixed to an inner face (11a) of the turbine shell (11), and a driven plate of a lock-up device fixed to an outer face (11b) of the turbine shell (11), the method comprising:

fixing the driven plate to the turbine shell (11);

heating the turbine shell (11) and the plurality of blades (13) to fix the plurality of blades (13) to the turbine shell (11) by brazing; and
rapidly cooling the rotary member (10) after heating the turbine shell (11).

2. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 1, wherein rapidly cooling the rotary member (10) includes the rotary member (10) being rapidly cooled immediately after the rotary member (10) is cooled down to a certain temperature after heating the turbine shell (11) and plurality of blades (13).

3. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 2, wherein the brazing is performed by heating such that a temperature of the rotary member (10) reaches at least a melting point of the brazing material used for brazing, and
rapidly cooling the rotary member (10) includes the rotary member (10) being rapidly cooled when the temperature of the rotary member (10) reaches an appropriate hardening temperature of the driven plate after heating the turbine shell (11) and plurality of blades (13).

4. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 3, wherein rapidly cooling the rotary member (10) includes the rotary member (10) being cooled down to the appropriate hardening temperature or a mechanical melting temperature while

keeping the temperature distribution of the rotary member (10) within 100 degrees Celsius.

5. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 4, wherein the turbine shell (11) and the plurality of blades (13) are made of ultra low-carbon steel.

6. A rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) manufactured by the method according to claim 5.

7. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 3, wherein the turbine shell (11) and the plurality of blades (13) are made of ultra low-carbon steel.

8. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 2, wherein the turbine shell (11) and the plurality of blades (13) are made of ultra low-carbon steel.

9. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 1, wherein the brazing is performed by heating such that a temperature of the rotary member (10) reaches at least a melting point of the brazing material used for brazing, and

rapidly cooling the rotary member (10) includes the rotary member (10) being rapidly cooled when the temperature of the rotary member (10)

reaches an appropriate hardening temperature of the driven plate after heating the turbine shell (11) and plurality of blades (13).

10. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 9, wherein rapidly cooling the rotary member (10) includes the rotary member (10) being cooled down to the appropriate hardening temperature or a mechanical melting temperature while keeping the temperature distribution of the rotary member (10) within 100 degrees Celsius.

11. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 10, wherein the turbine shell (11) and the plurality of blades (13) are made of ultra low-carbon steel.

12. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 9, wherein the turbine shell (11) and the plurality of blades (13) are made of ultra low-carbon steel.

13. The method for manufacturing a rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) according to claim 4, wherein the turbine shell (11) and the plurality of blades (13) are made of ultra low-carbon steel.

14. A rotary member (10) of a torque converter (1) manufactured by the method according to claim 1.

Applicant respectfully asserts that support for these claims may be found at least in the following place in the written disclosure:

- Claim 1 – the last paragraph beginning on page 3;
- Claim 2 – the first full paragraph beginning on page 4;
- Claims 3 and 9 – the second full paragraph beginning on page 4;
- Claims 4 and 10 – the third full paragraph beginning on page 4;
- Claims 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, and 13 – the last paragraph beginning on page 4; and
- Claims 6 and 14 – the first full paragraph beginning on page 5.

Further support for the claims can be found on pages 8-12 of the written disclosure.

Applicant respectfully asserts that the aforementioned reference characters and the references to the written disclosure are to be used as examples only. In other words, *Applicant respectfully asserts that the aforementioned reference characters and the references to the written disclosure are provided for illustration only and not for the purpose of limiting the invention as defined by the claims and their equivalents.*

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Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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